

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 640

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Men's Health.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 15, 2007

Mr. CRAPO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Men's Health.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Men’s Health Act of
5 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) Risks to the health and well-being of Amer-
9 ica’s men are on the rise due to a lack of education,

1 awareness, and pursuit of preventative screening and
2 care.

3 (2) While this health crisis is of particular con-
4 cern to men, it is also a concern for women regard-
5 ing their fathers, husbands, sons, and brothers.

6 (3) Men's health is a concern for employers who
7 pay the costs of medical care, and lose productive
8 employees.

9 (4) Men's health is a concern to Federal and
10 State governments which absorb the enormous costs
11 of premature death and disability, including the
12 costs of caring for dependents left behind.

13 (5) The life expectancy gap between men and
14 women has increased from one year in 1920 to al-
15 most six years in 2002.

16 (6) Prostate cancer is the most frequently diag-
17 nosed cancer in the United States among men, ac-
18 counting for 33 percent of all cancer cases.

19 (7) An estimated 230,000 men will be newly di-
20 agnosed with prostate cancer this year alone, and
21 approximately 30,000 will die.

22 (8) Prostate cancer rates increase sharply with
23 age, and more than 75 percent of such cases are di-
24 agnosed in men age 65 and older.

1 (9) The incidence of prostate cancer and the re-
2 sulting mortality rate in African American men is
3 twice that in white men.

4 (10) It is estimated that in 2007, 115,000 men
5 will be diagnosed with lung cancer, and another
6 90,000 of America's men will die from lung cancer.

7 (11) Over 8,000 men, ages 15 to 40, will be di-
8 agnosed this year with testicular cancer, and 390 of
9 these men will die of this disease in 2007. A com-
10 mon reason for delay in treatment of this disease is
11 a delay in seeking medical attention after discov-
12 ering a testicular mass.

13 (12) Studies show that women are 100 percent
14 more likely than men to visit a doctor, have regular
15 physician check-ups, and obtain preventive screening
16 tests for serious diseases.

17 (13) Appropriate use of tests such as prostate
18 specific antigen (PSA) exams and blood pressure,
19 blood sugar, and cholesterol screens, in conjunction
20 with clinical exams and self-testing, can result in the
21 early detection of many problems and in increased
22 survival rates.

23 (14) According to the Census Bureau, by the
24 time men and women reach age 65, the ratio of men
25 to women reduces to 85 to 100. The growing dis-

1 parity in this statistic suggests that among other
 2 factors, the declining health of men increases the
 3 risk of women entering retirement age as widows.

4 (15) Educating men, their families, and health
 5 care providers about the importance of early detec-
 6 tion of male health problems can result in reducing
 7 rates of mortality for male-specific diseases, as well
 8 as improve the health of America’s men and its over-
 9 all economic well-being.

10 (16) Recent scientific studies have shown that
 11 regular medical exams, preventive screenings, reg-
 12 ular exercise, and healthy eating habits can help
 13 save lives.

14 (17) Establishing an Office of Men’s Health is
 15 needed to investigate these findings and take such
 16 further actions as may be needed to promote men’s
 17 health.

18 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF MEN’S HEALTH.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title XVII of the Public Health
 20 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u et seq.) is amended by adding
 21 at the end the following section:

22 **“SEC. 1711. OFFICE OF MEN’S HEALTH.**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish
 24 within the Department of Health and Human Services an
 25 office to be known as the Office of Men’s Health, which

1 shall be headed by a director appointed by the Secretary.
2 The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Office,
3 shall coordinate and promote the status of men's health
4 in the United States.

5 “(b) ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary, acting through the
6 Director of the Office, shall—

7 “(1) conduct or support programs and activities
8 to improve the state of men's health in the United
9 States; and

10 “(2) provide for consultation among offices and
11 agencies of the Department of Health and Human
12 Services for the purpose of coordinating programs
13 and activities relating to men's health.”.

14 (b) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date
15 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and
16 Human Services, acting through the Director of the Office
17 of Men's Health, shall submit to the Congress a report
18 describing the activities of such Office, including findings
19 that the Director has made regarding men's health.

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